

and testimony before several congressional committees. Also, we have witnessed the sacrifice these firefighters are willing to make to keep communities and their property safe.

Current wildland firefighter classification standards are far outdated and simply do not accurately reflect the all-risk duties performed by these brave men and women all year round. This legislation is the least we can do for these Federal wildland firefighters who lost their lives and those who continue to rehab from serious scarring and life-altering burns.

I urge all Members to join me today in supporting this important legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Madam Speaker, last August, the Federal Workforce and Agency Organization Subcommittee held a hearing in Las Vegas on Federal firefighter compensation. In addition to pay, one of the concerns raised at the hearing by the Federal Wildland Fire Service Association was the classification of Federal wildland firefighters.

Federal wildland firefighters are classified as either general schedule or wage-grade employees of the Federal Government. However, many of them are placed in the occupational series called forestry technicians, range technicians, and biological science technicians that do not reference their firefighting duties. These current classifications do not accurately represent the work performed by these wildland firefighters. H.R. 5697 would correct that by redesignating forest and range technicians as Federal wildland firefighters. This bill changes the name but not the pay of those currently called wildland firefighters or technicians. H.R. 5697 is supported by the FWFS, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this bill, and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SOUDER. I have no further speakers, and I also yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5697, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds of those voting having responded in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2225

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX) at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 394. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a boundary study to evaluate the significance of the Colonel James Barrett Farm in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4416. An act to reauthorize permanently the use of penalty and franked mail in efforts relating to the location and recovery of missing children.

H.R. 5076. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2007 and 2008, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5132. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including in the National Park System certain sites in Monroe County, Michigan, relating to the Battles of the River Raisin during the War of 1812.

H.R. 5466. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.

H.R. 5646. An act to study and promote the use of energy efficient computer servers in the United States.

H.R. 5782. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for enhanced safety and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, to provide for enhanced reliability in the transportation of the Nation's energy products by pipeline, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6342. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to expand eligibility for the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 497. Concurrent resolution to honor the memory of Arnold "Red" Auerbach.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 5946. An act to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to authorize activities to promote improved monitoring and compliance for high seas fisheries, or fisheries governed by international fishery management agreements, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6111. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the Tax Court may review claims for equitable innocent spouse relief and to suspend the running

on the period of limitations while such claims are pending.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1876. An act to provide that attorneys employed by the Department of Justice shall be eligible for compensatory time off for travel under section 5550b of title 5, United States Code.

S. 4091. An act to provide authority for restoration of the Social Security Trust Funds from the effects of a clerical error, and for other purposes.

S. 4042. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit disruptions of funerals of members or former members of the Armed Forces.

The message also announced that the Senate agreed to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 843) "An Act to amend the Public Health Service Act to combat autism through research, screening, intervention and education".

HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. NANCY PELOSI, DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 7, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), amended by Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (22 U.S.C. 6901), I hereby reappoint Mr. Michael Wessel of Falls Church, Virginia, to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission for a term expiring December 31, 2008. His current term expires December 31, 2006.

In addition, I hereby appoint to that Commission Mr. Jeffrey L. Fiedler of Great Falls, Virginia, to fill the remainder of the term of Mr. George Becker, who is resigning effective December 31, 2006. The current term on which Mr. Fiedler succeeds Mr. Becker expires December 31, 2007.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,
House Democratic Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM DEMOCRATIC LEADERS OF UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY